National Housing Policy

*49. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVE. LOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Housing Policy aimed at providing houses to everyone by the end of the century has been approved; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of ihe Policy?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) One of the main goals of National Housing Policy approved by the Government is that houselessness will be reduced in the next 10 years.

(b) Salient features of the National Housing Policy are as under:

(i) The basic objective of the policy is to assist the people, in particular the homeless, inadequately housed and vulnerable sections to secure for themselves an affordable shelter.

(ii) For the purpose, the policy lays down ways and means to ensure this through access to developed land, building materials, finance and technology.

(iii) The policy envisages a major shift in the role of Government at different levels from that of direct builder of houses to that of facilitator of housing activity with responsibility for creating an. enabling environment by eliminating constraints and by developing an efficient system for the delivery of various housing inputs.

(iv) At the same time, Government will continue to be responsible for providing direct assistance to disadvantaged groups like Economically Weaker Section, Schedule Caste/ Schedule Tribe, physically handicapped, households affected by natural calamities, poor widows and single women.

(v) The role of other agencies viz. private, cooperative sector and the community in increasing the output of housing has been duly recognised.

National Cultural Policy

*50. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister fo HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to formulate a National Cultural Policy;

(b) if so, what are the salient tea tures of the policy; and

(c) by when the policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RE SOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) During the year 1990, ten regional seminars were held in different parts of the country to elicit the views of experts, critics and administrators in the field of culture regarding formulation of a National Cultural Policy. A Sum mary of the discussions of the ten seminars in the form of a paper was presented in a meeting of the State Secretaries and Ministers of Culture on May 25-26, 1992. The recom mendations of the meeting of the State Ministers of Culture will be taken into account while finalising the policy on culture. Thereafter the draft paper will be circulated to the various States for their approval. Upon receipt of the approval] opinion of the various states, the Government will take appropriate action to present the policy on Culture.

Payment of dues to Farmers by Sugar Mills

*51. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAN-DRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the increase in production of sugar which has already crossed the last year's production, the arrears of pay

merits due from mills to the farmers for the cane supplies continue to mount;

(b) if so, what are the details of the arrears as on 1st January, 1st April and 1st July, 1992; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to ensure quick and timely payment of dues by the mills to the cane-growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) The sugar production during the current 1991-92 sugar season (October-September) upto 15th June, 1992 aggre gated to 129.41 lakh tonnes as against the production of 120.47 lakh tonnes during the entire 1990-91 season.

The arrears of cane price payable by the sugar factories to the farmers as reported by the sugar factories as on 1st January, 1992 was Rs. 318-20 crores representing 35.3 per cent of the total cane price payable and as on 1st April, 1992 was Rs. 606.38 crores representing 18.7 per cent of the total cane price payable. The information regarding cane price arrears •as on 1st July, 1992 has yet to be received from the sugar factories.

Ensuring timely payment of cane price by the sugar factories is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments who have got necessary powers and field organisations to enforce such payments. However, the Central Government has also issued reminders from time to time requesting the State Governments to ensure timely payment of the cane price dues.

Release of Funds for Sardar Sarovar Project

*52. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS; Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has released the full amount for the Sardar Sarovar Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RS SOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) For the Sardar Sarovar Project, the details of loan and credit made available by the World Bank are as under—

(i) Sardar Sarovar Dam and Power Project (Credit 15SSS—IN— SDR 99.7 million) Loan 2497-lN-$ 200 million)

(ii) Sardar Sarovar Water Delivery on Drainage Project (Credit 1553-IN-SDR 149.5 million)

The total cumulative credit utilisation (on reimbursement basis) uptil 31-3-92 is $ 290.67 million which is approximately equivalent to SDR 216.87 million. No amount of loan has been drawn as yet.

"नेशनल को-आपरेटिव बैंक" की स्थापना

*53. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या "नेशनल को-आपरेटिव बैंक" स्थापित किये जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कृषि मंत्री (श्री बलराम जाखड़): (क) और (ख) जी हां, सहकारी समितियों के पंजीकार को भारतीय राष्ट्रीय सहकारी संघ से, जो बहु राज्यीय सहकारी समितियां अधिनियम 1984 के अंतर्गत भारतीय राष्ट्रीय सहकारी बैंक के पंजीकरण के लिये मुख्य प्रमोटर हैं, एक प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है। प्रस्तावित बैंक का उद्देश्य राज्य स्तर/राष्ट्रीय स्तर के सहकारी बैंकों तथा नगरीय सहकारी बैंकों की सदस्यता के साथ सहकारी बैंकिंग प्रणाली को फालतू धनराशि को सहकारी तथा अन्य चयनित उद्यमों के लिये खर्च करने हेतुज एक शीर्ष बैंक के रूप में कार्यकरना है। लेकिन, भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक का विचार है कि प्रस्तावित भारतीय राष्ट्रीय सहकारी बैंक एक व्यावहारिक संस्थान नहीं हो सकता ।